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24. of August. 1578.

A discourse of the *present state of the Wars* in the lowe Countryes.

Wherein is contayned the pittifull Spoyle of Askot: And the Articles of Peace to bee concluded betweene the States, and Don Iohn de Austrea.

24 of August. 1578.

A discourse of the present state of the Wars in the lowe Countryes.

Wherein is contayned the [illegible] Askou and the Articles of [illegible] to [illegible] berrieren the [illegible] Don Iohn de Austria.

¶ The pitifull Spoyle of *Askot, by Don Ioan* de Austria.

I Maye not seeme so vngratefull vnto you my louinge freinde, in recompence of your gret benefites which I haue sudry waies receiued from you, as not to certifie you of all such occurantes as here are reddy past. But from time to time, God lending me life, I minde still as iust occasion shall serue to signifye vnto you how things here shall passe. You vnderstand that on the syxt day of this moneth of August

gust, howe that the Vicount of Gaunt (vnderstanding that Don Iohn his forces were retired towardes Louin) beleeged Askot with three thousande Souldiers and 2. great peeces of Ordinance, and put to the Swoorde 200. Alboneys, and 500. Almaynes and VValons Souldiours, who were there in garison, which when the Vicunt of Gaunt (had by the valiancye of English men and the Scots slayne so many before specifyed) gaue commaundement that neither Burget nor Inhabitant should be hurt, onlye their goodes and munition for warre, whose commaundemente was accomplished, and as it is surely notifyed that the spoyle of that Towne is valued too bee better worth to the Souldyers then fyue thowsande pownde, although the same Towne was but of very smal countenaunce. When this exployte

by

by our Countrymen was fynished they returned too their Campe agayne: Whiche when Don Ihoan had intelligence heereof, hee went in parson to viewe the same, and found as before is mencioned: being all vext with furye for that whiche had happened, gaue commaundement to kyll men, women, and Children, which was a great number, and a sorrowful sight. Yet notwithstanding he was not satisfyed, but also caused the Towne to be burnt & vtterly defaced to the ground. Thus my beloued I haue certifyed you of the vtter ruine of this little Towne.

And furthermore, to let you vnderstande, that on wednesday last, our Imbassadors departed from Machelen towardes Don Iohn, accompanied with certayne Lordes of the Countrey, for the conclusion of a Peace (if it maye be) according

to

to certayne Articles which I sende you herewith.

We heare not yet what is effected, a murmor of Peace here runneth. But yet greatly doubted: and that all is but practizes, and the French thought to be all one with Don Iohn.

The French Imbassador is returned, but not hearde what hee hath brought with him for newes, being thought his comming to bee rather to get some conclusion of his message, for the which he came first for his mailbet, to the ende he might be dispatched, then other wyse to venter himselfe longer here, fearing the smoother and smoake is so fore seene and smelte, as the flame must needes ere long burst out.

The Duke Allonson flourysheth at Mons, where he hath feasted all the Nobles and Gentlemen. That

place

place is sure enough for him: other Townes in Henego, will not yet accept of him.

In Valenciene (as men report) they have bene in Armes, and fought together, but wherefore, or who haue gotten the better, is not yet here certainly knowen.

Casimerus is now in the Campe with his Forces, where the Archduke Mathias hath bene: And hee met Casimerus before Leyre, and so returned to the Towne, and dyned together.

Nowe it is thought, that the Campe shall presentlie marche, eyther to the syege of some Towne, that Don Iohn holdeth, or else to follow his forces, vntyll they meete with him.

There is money, Munition, and all other kinde of Furniture, sent to the Campe of the States to main-

raithe the Souldiors the better.

Don Iohn for certayne, hath a great number of Spaniardes, and Italians, comming vnto him, which by reporte hath bene seene Marching in Piemont, and are about eyght, or ten thousande.

The.13.of Augu.1578.

¶ The Articles which are giuen by the States to the Ambassadors of the Queenes Maiestie of Englande, and certaine other Lordes of the Countrie, by them to be agréede vpon, with Don Iohn de Austrea, betweene the.22. of August, and the.3. of September next.1578.

IN Primis, to forgette all that is past.

To confirme or allowe the administration of the States, from the entering of the sayde Don Iohn, in the Castle of Namur.

That he shall depart with his

Adherentes and Allyes, ercepte those of the Countrey.

To render the Prouinces, or Countreyes into the handes of the States.

That within this monetly of August, he shall render and restore the Cities on this syde the Mase: that is; Deuenter, Lumborche, and Remmond.

The Duke Mathias shall remayne Gouernour.

The States in generall, and particular, shall holde and keepe theyr auctthorities, vnder the obeysaunce and homage of his Maiestie.

Those of Burgondy and Luxenburge

enbaurge shall be bounde to mayntayne the pacifycation of Gaunt.

Touching the Religion, men shall gouerne them selues after the best manner as shall be possyble, accordinge to the necessytie of the Countreyes, and Prouinces shall requyre.

All Prysoners to bee released.

No Gouernour to bee put in these Countryes, without the consent of the States.

That the Princes, and others confederated, shall be comprehended in the Peace.

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